

# THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY

VOL. LXV.

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COLONIZATION BUILDING, 430 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

# The American Colonization Society.

COLONIZATION BUILDING, 450 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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So numerous have the applications become, that THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY will hereafter give the preference, all other things being equal, to those who will pay a part of the cost of their passage and settlement in Liberia. Persons wishing to remove to that Republic should make application, giving their name, age and circumstances, addressed to William Coppinger, Secretary and Treasurer, Colonization Rooms, Washington, D. C.

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## THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY,

Published quarterly by the AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, is intended to record the Society's proceedings, and all movements for the civilization and evangelization of Africa. It is sent, without charge, when requested, to the officers of the Society and of its Auxiliaries, to life members and to annual contributors of ten dollars and upwards to the funds of the Society. To subscribers it is supplied at One Dollar per annum, payable in advance. Orders or remittances for it should be sent to WILLIAM COPPINGER, Secretary and Treasurer, Colonization Rooms Washington, D. C.





# THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

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VOL. LXV. WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER, 1889. No. 4

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## "THE NEGRO PROBLEM."

When the chief topic of earnest and, in some aspects of it, almost hopeless discussion, is the Negro in the United States, his present status and his future position, the American Colonization Society certainly cannot be silent.

The idea of such an organization as the American Colonization Society was conceived long before the Declaration of Independence or the rise of the anti-slavery agitation by men who not only recognized the problem which the presence of the Negro had thrust upon the country, but considered also the Providential purpose which, it seemed to them, the residence of the Negro here had in view in its bearing upon the evangelization, through their instrumentality, of the millions in their fatherland.

When we take into consideration events now transpiring in Africa, the insurmountable obstacles which, in the equatorial parts of that Continent, confront the efforts of the white man, and the steady though unobserved manner in which the Liberian Republic, that offshoot from the United States, is gradually advancing on that Continent, bringing the Aborigines within the pale of Christian civilization; and when we consider also the situation in the southern part of our own country, we cannot but feel that the founders and patrons of the American Colonization Society were not only philosophers and philanthropists, but prophets.

The Negro problem now confronts us in an intensified form, presenting a more serious and complicated aspect than it did in the time of slavery; for whereas under slavery the Negro was apart from the political life of the nation, used only as an instrument and a chattel, now he is by law a part of the political machinery, preventing in the mind of many its easy, convenient and successful working—a part

and yet not a part-incapable, according to the teachings of Mr. Philip A. Bruce and other Southern writers, of comprehending the institutions under which he lives.

As we gather the views of Southern thinkers and writers, they all seem to tend to the same conclusion, that American institutions will ere long be subjected to a severer strain than they have yet endured, and one of the most important causes of this strain will be the evil influence which the Southern blacks will indirectly exercise on the national destiny. To prevent the sinister results apprehended, these writers are reaching the view that for the good of both races separation is necessary. It does not derogate at all from the comprehensive principles we have inculcated, which included the civilization and evangelization of Africa, that some of these Southern statesmen are disposed to ignore the "Dark Continent" in their suggestions for a deportation of the race. Granted the necessity of a separation, and the means for effecting that separation, and there is not the slightest doubt as to the direction in which the great body of the Negro population will move. They are Africans and the heart of the genuine African is in Africa—there alone is the untrammelled field for his social, intellectual, political and religious development. There are on file in this office applications from thousands upon thousands of the sons of Africa in the South for assistance and facilities to reach the land of their fathers, not only to escape from disabilities, but to carry the gospel to their brethren. We are in a position to know that the white philosophers and statesmen of the South are not a whit more anxious to see a separation of the two races than the "Plantation Negro," so unjustly disparaged in Mr. Bruce's thoughtful and timely publication.\*

We will give here one or two of the recent utterances of Southern statesmen and others on this subject. Hon. William P. Calhoun, writing from Abbeville, S. C., April 4, 1889, says:

"The thing that thousands in the South desire is the actual elimination of the Negro from politics and the South by colonization. It is simply a waste of time to work to break up the solid South in any other way. Just so long as the Negro remains with us, whether disfranchised or not, the South will remain solid. We have no use for such a population as the colored race. We want white men in the South; and the only way to get them to come among us is to remove the Negro. *The man who can bring about this removal and thus eliminate the sad problem, by so doing will be looked upon as even greater than Washington and the redeemer of the South.* \* \* \* \* \* I, for one—and there are thousands in the South who agree with me—favor the colonization of the Negro. If it is to be done the manner of doing so must be worked out as soon as possible, but I cannot go into details on this matter."

Senator Hampton, interviewed a few weeks ago by a reporter of

\* "The Plantation Negro as a Freeman."

the Washington *Evening Star*, said :

"We would gladly see the colored people move elsewhere, and we would be willing to suffer any reduction of representation that might result from their departure. It would deprive us of much of our labor and make it a little harder for the present generation, but it would be the salvation of the future. I do not wish any harm to the Negroes, but I would gladly sacrifice whatever votes we get in the electoral college or in Congress, by reason of them, if they would go off to themselves. I would gladly vote to appropriate fifty millions of dollars for the purchase of Cuba or some other place for them to settle in."

Senator Ingalls says : " Many intelligent Northerners appreciate the motives which impel the Southern suppression of the colored vote, and under similar circumstances would move in the same direction."

On this subject there is a consensus of opinion among Southern statesmen, and space would fail us to give the views in harmony with theirs of leading Southern and Northern papers.

There is at the same time considerable feeling in favor of Africa and Liberia as a field for the future efforts of the American Negro who, as long as he remains on this side, it is alleged, will be a source of strife and contention. The *Baltimore Sun*, August 23, in an able article on "African Ethnology," speaks of Liberia as follows :

"Liberia occupies a large extent of country, not very flourishing, but capable of high improvement if it could receive all the elements of support, especially in settlers, which its admirable location and conditions so fairly entitle it to receive from the United States, responsible in many ways for its foundation and continuance. The scantiest attempts only have been made to extend and strengthen the influence of the Republic, but it would seem that such a fine field should not longer be neglected by American help, especially by that of transplanted Africans on American soil. When filled up and properly equipped to its full capacity Liberia will be likely to play a considerable part in helping to civilize the neighboring and now savage countries."

The *New York Herald* (August 30th) contained a long and interesting communication on "New Empires of Commerce," in which Liberia is highly commended to the attention of the United States Government and the American public. In an able and appreciative leader on the subject the editor says :—

"Africa will tempt the avarice of every race on the globe within the next century. Within the next five centuries it may become one of the great factors of civilization, crowded with nationalities which may possibly hold the balance of political power and dictate the policy of the rest of Christendom.

"On the west is the struggling Republic of Liberia, which has never received the credit it has so hardly earned.

"Already a demand has been made for two transcontinental railroads. One is to have its western terminus at Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, and its route will extend through Masina, Sokoto, Darfur, Abyssinia, and end on the eastern coast at the foot of the Red Sea. The other will begin at the mouth of the Congo and run through the heart of the Continent, already explored by Stanley, with an eastern terminus close to Zanzibar.



"To be sure, it almost makes the brain reel to think of the time as near at hand when New York will hear from Central Africa by telegraph as we do from Dakota, of contested elections and strikes in cities of a million inhabitants, and when it will be as attractive to spend a winter in some fashionable health resort a few miles from Victoria Nyanza as it is now to make the tour of Europe.

"The last unconquered spot on the earth will surrender to the victorious enterprise of man, and Africa, hitherto symbolized by nakedness and barbaric splendor, will be 'clothed upon' with the robes of a Christian civilization and be admitted into the brotherhood of nations, worthy of a place in the councils of human progress."

It will appear, then, that events here and events in that distant Continent are pointing to a realization, at no distant day, of the hopes and expectations—social, political, and religious for Africa and this nation—which led to the founding of the American Colonization Society seventy-two years ago, and towards which we have labored during that time steadily and without interruption.

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#### LIBERIA.\*

I have great pleasure in addressing the Manchester Geographical Society on the subject of Liberia.

Liberia, in point of situation, occupies the grain coast of Northern Guinea, and lies between the fourth and ninth parallels of north latitude, having the English colonies of Sierra Leone on the northwest and the gold coast and Cape Coast Castle on the southeast. It was originally founded by the American Colonization Society in 1821. In 1843 a form of government as a Commonwealth was set up, and for four years worked very harmoniously, and prepared the way for that which occurred in 1847, when Liberia became an independent State, and was acknowledged as such by all European Powers. It is the outcome of Negro emancipation, and consequently it is composed of freed Negroes and their descendants, with numerous aboriginal tribes, and is entirely governed by men of color.

The great ability, learning and skill of many of Liberia's citizens are found in their code of laws, which for humanity, justice, and morality no other country can excel. One of her first articles is that Christianity is the foundation of all law; her next that education is a necessity, admitting of no appeal. The government of Liberia consists of a President and ministers, as in other countries; two houses of Parliament, a Senate and a Lower House.

\*By Hon. E. B. Gudgeon, Consul-General of Liberia, London. Read at the meeting of the Manchester Geographical Society, November 21, 1888, and published in its Journal.



Nearly two millions of people are subject to her rule, consisting of about twenty thousand freed Negroes and their descendants, the remainder belonging to Aborigines, tribes of which I shall speak a little later on. It is, however, the boast of Liberia's sons that though she possesses a seaboard of some five hundred miles and an interior of about two hundred, she has not acquired territory by seizure, conquest, or the spilling of one drop of blood. All has been acquired by treaty, purchase, exchange and barter.

As in most other countries similarly situated, the land in the vicinity of the ocean is generally low and marshy. There are some elevated spots, however, such as those on which the cities of Monrovia and Harper are located. The land becomes more elevated towards the interior, and within fifty miles of the coast it is quite mountainous. Far as the eye can reach, from the highest points of land in the vicinity of the ocean, the whole country presents the appearance of a deep, unbroken forest, with hill-top rising above hill-top toward the vast interior, the country consisting, not, as is supposed by some persons, of arid plain and burning sands, but of hills and valleys, covered with the verdure of perpetual spring. The country is well watered; many beautiful streams may be seen winding their way amid blooming flowers and wild shrubbery, and many cooling springs of clear sparkling water invite the weary traveler to linger and quench his thirst.

The soil of Liberia, like that of other countries, varies in appearance, quality and productiveness. That of the uplands, though generally much inferior to that of the lowlands, is better adapted to some articles of produce. The upland soil usually consists of reddish clay, more or less mixed with soft rocks and stones, containing considerable quantities of iron. That of the lowlands, in the immediate vicinity of the ocean, consists principally of sand. Besides this sandy soil there are two other varieties of lowland soil, one of which is that on the banks of the rivers, within a few miles of the sea. This consists of a loose, deep black mould, which is peculiarly adapted to the growth of those kind of vegetables that thrive best during the dry season.

The other variety is that which is generally found extending back from the banks of the rivers, farther from the sea than the last named. This consists of a light colored clay, more or less tempered with sand, and it is well adapted to almost every kind of vegetables that will thrive in tropical climates. I should remark that, being a sub-tropical country, Liberia enjoys a climate which produces every kind of fruit, and in abundance.

It is often asked, Is this country healthy? I will give you the account just published by "natives and travelers." Thus, Bishop Taylor says: "I have entirely changed my mind in regard to the perils of life in this country, especially in Liberia, which I believe to be a healthful climate, much more so than the eastern shore of Maryland, New Jersey, or New York, and far ahead of settlements of the Mississippi Valley;" and he adds, "It is an equally salubrious, enjoyable climate, and no plague of flies and but few mosquitoes." Another traveler writes: "I need not speak of the soil of the Cavalla river country. It is all fertile, yet high, hilly and healthful. The river itself, nearly as large as the Hudson, flows rapidly between high banks, with no swamps, and is beautifully clear." He adds: "I saw so many beautiful hills on which I would like to build a house and settle down that I could not but be enraptured with the sight." Another calls it "the garden spot of West Africa." Speaking of the climate of Liberia reminds me of an incident which occurred in September, 1886. One of the cabinet ministers of Liberia arrived in England on business and did me the honor of a visit. He had been but a few days in London. The weather for the time of the year was cold and showery. He said to me: "Your climate is not pleasant. When we have wet weather the rain is warm and the breezes are refreshing, but *your* rain is cold and chilly, and goes right through one. I shall return as soon as I can to the preferable climate of Monrovia." And he did so, leaving Liverpool two days afterwards. I merely mention this to show the two climates as they appear from disinterested points of view.

Some of the Liberian farmers and merchants have made fortunes, and live in comfortable and even elegant style. In the month of July last some Liberian merchants from different parts of the Republic left on board the English mail steamer on their way to Europe, for business or pleasure. They were all colored men, born in the United States and had emigrated to Liberia when children.

Mr. Stanley, the great traveler, who has often visited Liberia, thus speaks of the young Republic: "The American people," he says, "had evidently forgotten that it was through the philanthropy of their fellow-citizens that the free State of Liberia had been founded, to the establishment of which they had contributed more than half a million of money to create homes and comforts for the 18,000 free Africans they despatched to settle there. This State, which they might regard with honest pride, had now an area of 14,300 square miles, and a revenue of about £40,000 per annum."

Among the products of Liberia, for the table or domestic use,

nearly all the different kinds of grain, roots and fruits peculiar to intertropical climates thrive well. The quality of many are of the same kind produced by ourselves. Rice is largely cultivated by the natives, is a great staple of Africa, and the principal article of food of the numerous aboriginal inhabitants.

The sweet potato, cassava, yam and tania may be raised in great abundance with very little labor on almost every kind of land and at any time during the year. The cassava, when not cooked, in taste very much resembles that of a fresh chestnut; when properly cooked it is very palatable and nutritious. The root of the yam is more farinaceous and more mealy than that of the cassava, resembling the Irish potato. Tania, in like manner, when prepared like Irish potato, resembles that excellent vegetable in taste, and is very wholesome. Almost every kind of vegetable is grown in Liberia, of which I may name beans, peas, cabbages, tomatoes, cucumbers, water melons, pumpkins, musk-melons, beets, radishes, and carrots; the absence of frost assisting greatly in their development. Cabbages grow rapidly and often attain the height of several feet and rarely go to seed till it is therefore evident that any other kind of vegetable could easily be raised there.

A great variety of fruit is found in Liberia, many of which are indigenous. The principal fruits are the orange, lime, lemon, pineapple, guava, mango, plantain, cocoa-nut, tamarind, cocoa, pomegranate, cherry, and rose-apple. These grow in great abundance, and it is not at all an uncommon thing to see on an orange tree blossoms, buds young fruit and full grown fruit at the same time, so that while some of the oranges are ripening others are being produced. The guava tree, from which the celebrated jelly is made, grows abundantly. The mango plum is a handsome tree, thrives well, and the fruit is about the size of an ordinary apple. The banana is well known in this country, and needs no reference; but here I would remark, in speaking of the banana, that the quantity sent to this country from the West Indies is simply enormous and the amount they produce equally surprising. They grow in favor more and more each year, and I have no doubt ere long we shall have, with many other fruits from Liberia, a plentiful supply of the favorite banana. The cocoa-nut tree, which sometimes rises to the height of thirty feet or more is perhaps the most beautiful tree of tropical climates. Other productions, such as coffee, ginger, pepper, sugar, ground-nuts, indigo, cotton, and arrowroot, are very prolific and yield large crops. Coffee is indigenous to Liberia, and is frequently seen wild in the woods, but the cultivated plant yields about the finest coffee in the world, equal-

ing Mocha or Java. The arrowroot tree (a tender plant) grows to the height of two or three feet. But one of the most important productions of Liberia is the palm tree, which grows about twenty feet high and produces an abundant supply of oil. These trees can be seen in any part of Liberia and are a most valuable source of revenue to the State and to private enterprise. In addition to the above, a plentiful supply of gum and frankincense is also found. The forests of Liberia produce most valuable timber—rosewood, mulberry, mahogany, oak, saffron, hickory, poplar, and the celebrated gum elastic or rubber tree. The latter is now in great requisition, and is largely used in the various industries of the world. Medicinal plants of all kinds abound, and the *Croton tiglium*, from the seed of which the croton oil is extracted, is very plentiful.

The principal domesticated animals are bullocks or beeves, cows, goats, swine, geese, turkeys, ducks and chickens. Beeves are brought into the settlement for sale by the natives, and they are sometimes raised by citizens. Cows are numerous, but they do not give much milk. Some of the cows, which are brought from the interior, one or two hundred miles from the coast, are as large as ordinary cows in the United States, but they do not give so much milk. If properly attended to, however, I think they would afford milk much more plentifully. Sheep and goats can be raised in Liberia as easily as in any other part of the world, and they both afford good, wholesome animal food. The sheep are covered with hair instead of wool. The goats furnish very good milk. Swine do not thrive so well in Liberia as in some parts of the United States. Within a few years past turkeys have become much more plentiful than they formerly were. Perhaps in no other part of the world can chickens be raised more easily and more plentifully than in Liberia. With very little trouble every family may always have a sufficient supply of chickens. Horses are numerous in the interior, three hundred miles from the coast, but they do not thrive well in the settlements, perhaps in consequence principally of the want of proper management. They are occasionally brought down by the natives, and some of them are very beautiful. They are seldom more than twelve hands high, but they can rarely be used to much advantage as draft animals in the present settlements of Liberia. But for all necessary purposes the native oxen can be used as a substitute for horses. Some of the small bullocks can be seen broken to the yoke and working steadily and effectively. The Liberians, however, have not yet given so much attention to the breaking and working of horses and oxen as they ought to have done. I trust that the time may not be far distant when the plow and the cart will be much more extensively used than at present.

I will now speak of the climate of Liberia. Being within a few degrees of the Equator, of course the nature of the climate is essentially different from that of the United States, the vicissitudes of spring, summer, autumn and winter not being experienced in the equatorial regions of the earth, there being continued summer weather throughout the year, interrupted only by occasional slight variations in the state of the atmosphere, caused by the greater strength of the ordinary breezes, and by clouds and rain, which latter prevail so much more during one-half of the year than during the other half as to give rise to the usually recognized division of the year into two seasons—the wet or rainy season and the dry season, or in common parlance “the rains” and “the dries,” the former of which answers nearly to summer and autumn and the latter to winter and spring in temperate latitudes. This unqualified and somewhat arbitrary division of the year, however, has led many persons into error respecting the real state of the weather during the two seasons, some supposing that during the rainy season more or less rain falls during the six months beginning with May than during the remaining six months beginning with November. It is difficult, however, to determine at what time each of the two seasons actually commences and closes. As a general rule the middle of May may be set down as the beginning of the rainy season, and the middle of November as that of the dry season.

There are no very large rivers in Liberia, and though some of them are from one-fourth to three-fourths of a mile wide for fifty miles or more from their entrance into the ocean, yet some of them are not navigable a greater distance than twenty miles, the navigation being obstructed by rapids. The St. Paul's, the St. John's, and the Junk are the largest, and indeed they are the only rivers of any considerable length or width.

The other principal rivers are the Gallinas, the Cape Mount, the Mechlin, the New Cess, the Grand Cess, the Sanguin, the Sinoe, and the Grand Sesters. Some of these present a bold appearance at their mouths, but they are all comparatively short, and none of them are navigable for boats, or even for canoes, more than twenty or thirty miles, without obstruction by rocks or rapids. The St. Paul's river is a beautiful stream of water. It is three-fourths of a mile in the widest part (at Caldwell), and about three-eighths of a mile wide at Mills Burg, about fourteen miles from its mouth. The banks of this river rise from ten to twenty feet above the water, and, except in places that have been cleared, they are covered with large forest trees, among which may be seen the graceful palm, rearing aloft its

green tufted head, and standing in all its pride and beauty, the ornament and the glory of its native land. The St. Paul's is perhaps the longest river in Liberia. It is studded with many beautiful islands, abounding in camwood, palm and several other valuable forest trees, and its banks furnish many beautiful sites for residences. Many native hamlets may be seen on the banks of this lovely river, the homes of the untutored children of the forest, the benighted sons and daughters of Africa. The St. Paul's separates about three miles from its mouth. The principal stream rolls on towards the ocean, while the other fork flows in a southeasterly direction, almost parallel with the beach, and unites with the little Mesurado river near its mouth and thus an island is formed about eight miles long and from one to two in width, called Bushrod Island. This latter fork of the river is called Stockton Creek, in honor of Commodore Stockton, who kindly aided in effecting the first purchase of territory. The St. John's river is also a beautiful stream. It is about sixty miles southeast of the St. Paul's, and it flows through that part of Liberia known as the Grand Bassa country. At the widest point it is nearly, or quite, a mile wide. Its length, however, is supposed to be less than that of the St. Paul's. The St. John's is also studded with numerous islands, the largest of which is Factory Island, about three miles from its mouth. The banks of this river also rise considerably above the water, and the land bordering on it is also very productive.

The appearance of the country along the banks of these rivers and of the numerous little islands which they form, is highly picturesque. The banks of the St. Paul's and the St. John's in many places present encouraging scenes of agricultural industry, showing the handiwork of a people whose social condition is vastly superior to that of their aboriginal neighbors, and who are thus placing before the natives illustrations of the great superiority of the habits of civilized nations to their own customs, and examples which must eventually exert a powerful influence on the minds and practice of the contiguous native tribes. And thus, while the mind of the traveler is oppressed by the melancholy consideration of the moral and intellectual darkness of the scattered tribes of human beings, whose desolate looking hamlets frequently meet his view, as he wends his way amid the dense forests of the uncultivated hills and dales of Africa, he is encouraged to believe that the time will come when this extensive wilderness shall be made glad by the labors of industrious agriculturists, and when this vast desert of intellectual and moral degradation "shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

Monrovia is the largest and oldest of all the settlements, and it



is the metropolis and the seat of government of the Republic. It is located near the mouth of the Mesurado river (a small stream about fifteen miles long), about four miles southeast of the entrance of the St. Paul's river into the ocean, on an elevated site immediately in the rear of Cape Mesurado. The highest part of the hill on which the city stands, and which is near its center, is about eighty feet above the level of the ocean and about three-fourths of a mile from the summit of the cape, which is about 250 feet above the sea. Cape Mesurado is a bold promontory covered with masses of forest trees and dense undergrowth, except in places that have been cleared. On the summit of the cape is a light-house and a fort, and along the sloping declivity toward the city there are several cleared lots, on which small houses have been erected in some parts, affording very pleasant places of residence. The greater part of the promontory, however, is very rocky. The course of the coast north of the cape forms a kind of bay, which generally affords safe anchorage for vessels, and the cove near the base of the cape affords as good a landing on the beach as can be found on almost any other part of the coast.

The city of Monrovia, although more compact than any of the other settlements of Liberia, occupies a considerable extent of ground, being about one mile in length. It is laid out with as much regularity as the location will allow, and the streets, of which there are about fifteen in number, have received regular names. The city is divided into lots of one-fourth of an acre, and most of the dwelling houses have a lot attached to each of them. Most of the lots and several of the streets are adorned with various tropical fruit trees, and some of the gardens present a handsome appearance. The houses are two full stories. Many of them are substantially built of stone or brick, and some of the best houses are built partly of both of these materials. There are four commodious stone houses for public worship in the city, Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal and Presbyterian, nearly all of the professing Christians in the place being attached to one or the other of these religious denominations. At the base of the hill, on which stand the principal dwelling houses, there are several large stone buildings, which are occupied as stores and warehouses. The dwellings of many of the citizens of Monrovia are not only comfortably but elegantly furnished, and some of the residents of this little bustling metropolis live in a style of ease and affluence which does not comport with the contracted views of those persons who regard a residence in Africa as necessarily associated with the entire privation of the good things of this life. The population is about 5,000, exclusive of native children and youths who reside in the families of the citizens.



Some two millions of natives willingly acknowledge the sovereignty of Liberia. One of the most important is the Kroo tribe, extending from Bassa to the Cavalla river, including the Greboes. They are all free men. They do not tolerate domestic slavery. They have never been known to enslave each other. They preferred in the days of the slave trade to kill the criminals of their own tribe to selling them into slavery. No commercial operations can be carried on in West Africa, from Sierra Leone to Loando, without the Kroomen, and they are all taken from Liberian territory. Thousands of them have been away as sailors in merchant and naval ships, and having visited all points in West, South and East Africa—traveling even to India and China—have returned to their homes anxious to see their country improved, and proud of a flag representing a Negro nationality. Then Liberia has in her interior the great Mandingo tribe, extending from the St. Paul's river to Lake Chad. Samudu, the new Mahdi, a Mandingo, is by birth almost a Liberian, having been born near the eastern borders of Liberian territory. Besides, there are the intermediate tribes, Pessahs, Golahs, Bassas, &c., agriculturists and traders.

The American Colonization Society must feel greatly strengthened in its work. It has achieved what no other philanthropical agency in modern times has accomplished, and what, perhaps, no nation could have effected, viz.: the giving to the Negro an independent home in the land of his fathers, where he has unlimited scope for development and expansion. Had Liberia been the colony of a powerful government, political and commercial jealousies and the purposes of party spirit might have prevented the surrender of the colony to the absolute control of the colonists. Hayti had to fight for her independence. It is not practicable for Great Britain to give up Jamaica or Barbadoes, or Sierra Leone, or Lagos. But the American Colonization Society founded a nation, and continues to strengthen it. So God takes the weak things of the earth to confound the things that are mighty.

The Republic of Liberia now stands before the world the realization of the dreams of the founders of the American Colonization Society, and in many respects more than the realization. Its effect upon that great country is not to be estimated solely by the six hundred miles of coast which it has brought under civilized law. A sea of influence has been created, to which rivulets and large streams are attracted from the distant interior; and up those streams, for a considerable distance, a tide of regeneration continually flows. Far beyond the range of the recognized limits of Liberia, hundreds of miles

away from the coast, I have witnessed the effects of American civilization, not only in the articles of American manufacture, which I have been surprised to see in those remote districts, but in the intelligible use of the English language which I have encountered in the far inland regions, all going out from Liberia. None can calculate the widespread results of a single channel of wholesome influence. Travelers in Syria tell us that Damascus owes its fertility and beauty to one single stream—the river Abana. Without that little river the charm and glory of Damascus would disappear. It would be a city in a desert. So the influence of Liberia, insignificant as it may seem, is the increasing source of beauty and fertility, of civilization and progress to West and Central Africa.

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*From The Spirit of Missions*

#### AFRICA'S BRIGHT FUTURE,\*

The act just performed, my friends, is in itself, without associating it with any other thought, one of no small moment; but considered in connection with this day's anniversary, its peculiar significance cannot fail to attract attention. We commemorate to-day the fifty-fifth anniversary of the beginning of light in these regions of gross darkness; and in considering the present occurrence—the laying of the corner stone of Epiphany Hall—which is the outcome of that great event, the mind naturally reverts to it. Let us then, for a few moments, yield to the reflection which forces itself upon us.

As with Israel of old, so with the race with which we, my dear friends and fellow-citizens, are identified. The hand of Providence is unmistakably guiding this race and causing all events to conspire to develop His purposes concerning it. There is evidently a great future before us. Questions as to the past history of the Negro race have been warmly discussed and numerous opinions advanced *pro* and *con*. Now it strikes me that we need not trouble ourselves to try to reconcile the conflicting opinions with regard to our past history. The great work which demands all our energies, talents, and sacrifices is the redemption of the race from its present condition of degradation and sin. And in this work we have better encouragement than that derived from ancient history; for whether Negroes have ever ascended to the pinnacle of fame accredited to them by some, or have always been groping in the dark, as others insist, important events

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\* From Bishop Ferguson's address at the laying of the corner-stone of Epiphany Hall, Cape Palmas on Friday, February 22d, 1889.

are occurring which are unmistakable evidences that God is directing a train of circumstances which are to develop His purposes concerning the race. We have no definite knowledge as to what His purposes are; we know not the great blessings that are to follow Ethiopia's stretching out her hands unto God, but we do know that the results to be consummated will be worthy of the plans devised by so great a God as our God is.

If must, therefore, be a matter of no small importance with us to notice these events. See how the eyes of the civilized world are now turned to Africa; the "grab" for territorial possessions, as an English writer terms it; the exploring expeditions that are penetrating its vast interior; the railroad projects, trading companies, and, above all, the missionary adventures, penetrating to the very heart of the Continent, and planting the standard of our holy religion in the strongholds of the prince of darkness. We are watching these events with special reference to God's plans concerning the race. Even those occurrences which seem to our short-sightedness to be most adverse are often best calculated to promote the desired end.

"God moves in a mysterious way  
His wonders to perform."

It seemed a sad misfortune for Africa when her sons and daughters were ruthlessly torn from her breast during two of the darkest centuries that have passed over her; but as in the case of the patriarch Jacob, Joseph was carried away that he might be the means of saving his father and brethren from famine, so has God wonderfully brought it to pass in our case. The event we commemorate to-day points to this fact. It is the anniversary of the return of Africa's sons to their fatherland! On this day fifty-five years ago a meeting between brothers of the same race—the same blood—kith and kin—the one civilized and the other savage, notwithstanding—took place after a long period of separation! The great epiphany or manifestation of the light of civilization and Christianity began at that time. The standard of the religion of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, was then erected, in token that He would possess this land, which had been long, long ago given to Him as His heritage forever. "Ask of Me, and I shall give Thee the heathen for Thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for Thy possession."

Here are we, the descendants of those brave pioneers, who dared to face all the odds that were against them in founding this home, and also the descendants of those noble men—lords of the soil—who opened their arms and received their brethren from exile, and gave them a share in the inheritance from their common Father. This

land of great possibilities will be just what we are pleased to make it—a delightful habitation; the garden of the Lord; or still numbered among the dark places of the earth; the worse for having had the evils of civilization added to its savagery.

God be praised! The prospect is bright and encouraging! If in no other direction, surely in that which has occasioned our present gathering. Here, at this central point (Epiphany Hall), may be gathered young men and boys from heathen tribes far and near, who will unite with their brothers returned from exile across the ocean, and together qualify themselves mentally, morally, and physically for the great work of Africa's redemption.

And here you will perceive how peculiarly significant is the coincidence of the laying of this corner stone on the anniversary of the founding of the colony, as I stated in the outset. Here is the promise of the perpetuation and extension of that light which was then brought to these shores. When the sons of the Americo-Africans and those of the aboriginal Africans shall have qualified themselves, and joined heads and hearts and hands in a common cause, striving together for the salvation and upbuilding of this downtrodden race, then shall the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled: "The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined."

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*From The Lutheran Observer.*

### THE RUM-CURSE IN AFRICA.

BY REV. DAVID A. DAY.

The one great curse now resting on this Continent like a horrid night-mare, is spiritous liquors brought in by unprincipled men from Christian countries (?).

By the united efforts of these same civilized nations, that "open sore" of the world, the slave trade—as Livingstone called it—was in a measure healed; but a worse thing has come upon us. Instead of an "open sore," these would-be physicians have left a filthy ulcer, rotten and foal, which poisons the system, and changes the blood of Africa's tribes into corruption and the body into putridness.

The slave trade, spite of the lurid light of burning villages, the tears, pangs, heartaches, and all the untold horrors of the miserable traffic, had its modifying features. The man torn from his home and kindred and sent over the sea to labor for strangers—"to have his life made bitter with hard bondage"—might still learn of his Saviour

and in His death save his soul alive; but here is a monster evil—a horrible leprosy—deliberately and wickedly brought to us from the enlightenment (?) of the earth, which damns soul and body alike. Is God's Word true? Yea verily. Then "woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink." "God will judge the people righteously and govern the nations upon earth."

The Christian world sends up a cry of horror at the murder of Bishop Hannington, and stands aghast at the untimely death of Bartelott, and at the same time sends floods of rum to kill off the natives by whole tribes. We pray, "Thy kingdom come," and now and then send a missionary in the cabin of a ship, while we fill the entire hold with rum. We hire a little six-by-eight room at reduced rates for a man and his Bible, while the remainder of the ship is filled with the devil's most effectual weapon, and then wonder why the missionary gets on so slowly in his work of saving souls and teaching people the way of life.

Not very long ago I sat on board of a boat at one of the prominent African ports, and saw landed on a single Sabbath from two large steamers about 40,000 cases of gin, twelve bottles in a case. One missionary and 40,000 cases of gin coming in at the same time—think of it! How many scores of vessels come with the gin, but not even the one missionary! Do you wonder at the unutterable loneliness which crept over him? Behind a Continent waiting for the gospel—before him an ocean dotted with ships loaded with rum! "Oh, Lord, how long! how long!" These people have asked a fish and we have given a serpent to bite them to death.

To give an idea of the gigantic proportions of the rum trade, look at the following table of statistics collected in 1887 at the Island of Madeira, where nearly all vessels from America and Europe to West and South Africa call. It represents only part of the amount shipped in one week, and that only to the west and south:

960,000 cases of gin; 24,000 butts of rum; 30,000 cases of brandy; 28,000 cases of Irish whiskey; 800,000 demijohns of rum; 36,000 barrels of rum; 30,000 cases of Old Tom; 15,000 barrels of absinthe; 800 barrels of ale and beer; 660 barrels of claret; 500 barrels of port wine.

The mind sickens, the heart grows faint, as the awful picture unfolds and brings into view the terrible curse wrought on humanity by this Stygian flood, whose roar may be heard rising in horrible chorus, mingled with the dying groans of the blighted and the damned. To paint a scene like this, one needs to dip his pen in the blackness of perdition.

All along the coasts, in every port, at every river mouth, in every town and hamlet, following the streams and lines of travel

interiorward, liquors from other countries are being dispensed wholesale and retail. Anywhere and everywhere one comes across little low, dingy cabins, some of thatch, some of rough boards, in which arranged on shelves are rows of black bottles, which have been bought from the great warehouse on the wharf. "Pure Brandy." "Holland Gin"—the first at a dollar, the latter at sixty cents a bottle, giving a profit of from seventy to one hundred per cent. after paying all duties, shipments, etc.

In some sections of the country the demijohn of rum and the case of gin has become the unit on which are reckoned all values of food, produce and labor.

A few years ago I made a seventy mile tour through the Bassa country, and found that not a fowl could be bought or a kroo of rice purchased, because the demand was for rum. Not quite every vestige of humanity had been blotted out, and enough was given me to eat, otherwise I could not have made the trip, though I had cloth, kettles and articles of legitimate trade in ample amounts to pay my way. A few years more, and that once thriving country will be depopulated, as whole towns are dying, and squalid want reigns where, before rum found its way there, was rice and cassava in abundance. Intoxicants are bad enough in the temperate zones, but here in the tropics their effect is simply horrible. Not only do the pagans drink it in vast quantities but whatever civilization there may be is being bleared and bloated by the excessive use of these vile importations. Travel along the coast and visit the families of the towns, from the highest to the lowest grade. In one place you are offered champagne, in another Hollands, or may be your choice of half a dozen. At one place it is brought in handsome decanters by servants in spotless white; at another in a dirty jug by an almost nude boy; or may be it is offered from a cracked pitcher which is placed on the table with a rusty tin-cup, and you are invited to help yourself. The majority of clerks and traders indulge in it freely, and malaria fed by the bottle soon does its work. "Died of brandy and water" might truthfully be inscribed over many of the unknown graves of white men who have died on this "West coast of Africa."

When I first landed here a physician said to me, "Unless you take a glass of brandy in the morning you cannot live." I replied, "I can at least die a natural death." That doctor followed his own prescription, and has long since gone to swell the *great host of the lost through strong drink*. On one occasion I was handsomely entertained at the splendid home of a prominent English official, who told me that water was unhealthy, and that he had not tasted it for



years. He put brandy in his coffee and tea—drank it night and day. Poor deluded man! he, too soon died the drunkard's death. These are a few instances—they might be multiplied indefinitely.

The world glorified Stanley for his daring and persistent courage in opening up the "Dark Continent," and then the nations united to form a Congo State in the interest of commerce. What might have become a blessing has become a curse, and Africa would be a thousand times better off had Stanley never seen it. He has only opened up new inlets for rum, and unless God in some way sends help, the magnificent Congo basin—the Garden of Africa—will be blasted as by fire.

We spend money like water to open new roads for this nefarious trade. We arm men with "Maxim" guns to force their way into the interior. We do to them what must be in the sight of God heinous crimes. Some time ago, a military company from the United States asked permission from the English Government to visit the country, with arms and in uniform; but the request was, of course, not granted. We arm troops and send them into Africa with no permission. Have these people no rights? No wonder they curse Christianity, and the very name sounds like mockery to them.

My soul loathes a task like this, and grieves over the time spent; but no truthful man can sit quietly down without lifting his voice in protest. The first sound that greets his ear when he arrives is the roar of the river of pestilence whose headwaters is in the country that sent him out. With the superstition of the ages on one side and rum on the other, what wonder that between the upper and nether millstone the missionary is not ground to powder!

Well has a prominent New York newspaper said, that what is being done in Africa in the name of commerce, is a world crime, of a character so colossal—of an immorality so shameless and profound—that if it could be regarded as a type of nineteenth century civilization, it would be necessary to denounce that civilization as a horrible sham and conspicuous failure.

Cannot Christian nations see what the end of all this must be, or in their greedy demands for new fields of trade have their eyes become blinded? Vessels are sent here with cloth, kettles, beads and rum, which are offered in exchange for oil, rubber, ivory, kernels and other products. At first only a small amount of rum is called for, but each time the demand grows stronger, while less cloth is called for. It will continue so until the native, diseased, ruined, debased in body and mind, will be exterminated, and these fields for commerce be left desolate.



We arraign the rum traffic before the bar of opinion in Europe and America—in the name of God and millions of Africans charge it with being the destroyer of legitimate trade, with being antagonistic to every effort to civilize these tribes, and the unrelenting enemy of all good. It engenders strife, stirs up wars, degrades and debases the mind, and sows seed of disease and death. It robs the Negro of his money, steals his manhood, and sends his soul to perdition. In the name of God, let Christian people everywhere raise their voices against the most horrible crime which has ever been committed against a race. Pray God to save us from the curse! Vote temperance—preach temperance.

Mohammedanism is making rapid strides; and if Christian countries cannot and will not lend their influence to prevent the importation of rum—if we cannot have the Cross without the shame of the rum curse—let us have the Crescent: give us anything rather than rum.

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#### DR. EDWARD W. BLYDEN

Arrived in New York, from Liberia via England, in the White Star steamer *Britannic*, August 2, and he has spent most of the time since in Philadelphia and Washington. On the 13th of September, he attended, by invitation, a meeting of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, and gave information about Liberia, and described the various efforts for the occupation of Africa being made by Europeans, pointing out that there is no agency, whether philanthropic or commercial, which is so well adapted to the work of Africa's regeneration as the American Colonization Society, in its plan of returning to that country, civilized and Christianized descendants of Africa, to take possession and build up the land of their fathers.

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#### PROGRESS IN LIBERIA.

The following circular has been sent us for publication from Liberia. The Ricks Institute, founded about two years ago by Mr. Moses Ricks, a Negro, a native of Petersburg, Va., sent to Liberia under the auspices of the American Colonization Society in 1853, is one of those evidences of the growing self-reliance among the people of that rising Republic, which are cheering to her friends in this country. Mr. Ricks is a prominent member of the Baptist Church, which has for several years been carrying on its operations and extending its Chris-

tian influence among the Aborigines without any pecuniary help from this country.

This spirit of progress seems to be pervading all the denominations. The last mail brought us intelligence that Mr. Witherspoon, an Elder in the Presbyterian Church at Monrovia, has just completed at his own expense, near his farm on the Mesurado river, a church edifice, which he has presented to the Presbyterians.

The church buildings erected by Mr. M. T. DeCoursey and Senator Coleman of the St. Paul's river, for the use of the Episcopalians, have already been reported in these pages.

The Ricks Institute is under the management of a local Board of Trustees, chiefly members of the Baptist Church. The Faculty are Baptist ministers.

Rev. John S. Washington, the General Superintendent, emigrated to Liberia, when a child, with his parents, and grew up with no regular school training, but in constant intercourse with the natives, several of whose languages he has mastered. Rev. Robert B. Richardson was born in Liberia, and educated at Liberia College. Rev. James O. Hayes was educated at Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C. Dauda Kana, is a Mandingo, born at Musardu, who, under the teaching of Mr. Washington, left Mohomedanism and joined the Baptist Church, without impairing his influence among his own people.

This Institution includes among its pupils aborigines and colonists, and is working away from the coast towards the interior. The industrial feature of its operations is made prominent. We are requested to solicit on its behalf farming and mechanical implements, and books of all kinds for the library and the school room. Any books or tools sent to this office or to Monrovia, Liberia, *care of* Hon C. T. O. King, will be duly forwarded to the Institute.

"RICKS INSTITUTE.—An institution founded by Africans for the religious, literary, mechanical and agricultural training of African youth, is located about eight miles back from the St. Paul's river, Liberia, and eighteen miles from Monrovia, on the main road to the interior. The soil is fertile, the air is salubrious, and good water plentiful.

"THE FACULTY.—Rev. John S. Washington, General Superintendent, Rev. Robert B. Richardson, Principal, Rev. James O. Hayes, Tutor, Dauda Kana, Teacher of Arabic and Native Languages.

"STUDIES.—PRIMARY DEPARTMENT: Spelling, Reading, Geography, Penmanship, Mental Arithmetic, and Scripture Lessons. INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.—Advanced Reading, Penmanship, English Grammar, Geography, Higher Arithmetic, Algebra, Latin, Arabic, Vey and Mandingo, History of Liberia, General History, English Composition and Declamation, Vocal Music, and Scripture Lessons. Industrial teaching and exercise every day throughout each term. Three months constitute a term.

"TERMS.—Primary Department: 10, £1 One pound ten shillings, or seven

dollars and twenty cents per term. Intermediate: £2, Two pounds, or nine dollars and sixty cents per term. Lodging, fuel, washing and board furnished. Students are admitted from the age of seven years.

"The Bible is used as a textbook, but no religious test is required of applicants for admission. Good moral character and sound physical health are the only indispensable requisites.

"Applications for admission should be made to the General Superintendent,  
JOHN S. WASHINGTON,  
Virginia, Liberia, West Africa."

### DR. JAMES HALL.\*

BY HON. JOHN H. B. LATROBE.

My long acquaintance, personally and officially, with Dr. Hall, since 1833, requires at my hands a notice of him, now that he has passed away and while it is still in my power to do justice to one whose rare and peculiar services must always connect him with the history of Colonization.

The connection of Dr. Hall with Colonization may be said to form an episode in its history. Having no part in the proceedings that originated it,—never at any time participating in the sanguine views of many of its friends—more interested in the Negro race than in the removal of any part of it to Africa,—circumstances nevertheless resulted in placing Dr. Hall in a field where his great usefulness gave him the reputation that now attaches to his memory.

One of the earliest, most efficient and eminent of the founders of the American Colonization Society was the late General Robert Goodloe Harper. Reading law in his office, I met there the late Dr. Eli Ayres, who with Captain Robert F. Stockton, purchased from the native kings the site on which Monrovia now stands; and I obtained from him the information that enabled me to draw the first map of Liberia. This was engraved; and when the proof was received the name was given that has ever since been retained. While the map was being prepared, Dr. Ayres was turned over to me, as it were; and his vivid descriptions of Cape Palmas as a site for a colony impressed me so strongly that when, subsequently, I became a delegate, in 1828, to the annual meeting of the American Colonization Society, I offered a resolution suggesting the establishment of a colony there, and advocated it by repeating all that I had learned from Dr. Ayres. I mention this, not only to account for the accuracy of my description of a locality that I had never seen, but, mainly, to do justice to one of the truest of the early friends of the colonization cause. My only merit was in my appreciation of the intelligence and judgment of my informant.

Dr. Hall's first appearance in this connection was in 1831, when he took passage in the schooner *Orion* from Baltimore, the first vessel that the Maryland State Colonization Society,—then acting as a voluntary association on the principle of independent state action,—sent to Monrovia with emigrants for Liberia. Dr. Hall's health had been for some time feeble, and he went to Africa in the expectation that the sea-voyage and a change of climate would improve it. A thoroughly educated physician, he had no sooner landed than he was appreciated, and at once entered the service of the American Colonization Society. Those were days

\* Died at his home, Claremont, near Elkridge Landing, Howard County, Maryland, August 31, 1889. Aged 87 years.

when all men's abilities had to be made available; and it was not long before Dr. Hall found himself, on board the *Margaret Mercer*, a small schooner that friends in Baltimore had built to be utilized on the coast. Here he had, among other books, one containing the report of the proceedings of the American Colonization Society of 1828. It so happened that when reading this, the schooner lay becalmed opposite Cape Palmas, and it came into the Doctor's head to go on shore and see for himself how far the description of the mover of the resolution already referred to corresponded with the truth; the result being a letter to Dr. Ayres who was Secretary of the State Society when Dr. Hall took passage in the *Orion*. All that had been said of Cape Palmas was not only verified, but was emphasized so emphatically, that when the letter reached Baltimore, after Dr. Ayres had resigned his office, and came into the hands of the committee having the selection of the site for a settlement, there was no hesitation in adopting Cape Palmas.

To Dr. Hall therefore is to be credited the selection of the site of Maryland in Liberia, where was to be displayed the remarkable talent which fully justifies his being regarded as one of those who deserve to be considered leaders among men.

The selection of the site having been made, the next thing was to choose a person to conduct the emigrants to territory still to be purchased from the natives, and to establish the settlement. There was no want of good men willing to undertake the work; but no one had yet been suggested fit for the grave responsibilities involved.

This was the condition of things, when I was told that a stranger wanted to see me at Dr. Nathan R. Smith's, not far from my office. Here I found an attenuated, feeble looking man, who said he had just landed from Africa on his way to Washington to settle some accounts with the American Colonization Society. This was Dr. Hall, whom I had never seen before, having been absent when he sailed in the *Orion*. I well remember, that he had no sooner told me that he had just arrived from Africa, than, without waiting to learn the particulars of the visit to Washington, I asked if he was ready to go back at once, and found a settlement at Cape Palmas. "I am," was his instant reply; He then hesitated and added, "But I must go first to New Hampshire to see two children that I have at Claremont there." Much more passed between us; but the effect of our conversation is here given. I know that I regarded the advent of Dr. Hall in the light of a Godsend under the circumstances. All this was reported to the Board of Managers;—Dr. Hall was appointed agent of the Maryland State Colonization Society,—addressed himself to the preparation of the expedition,—on the 27th of November, 1833, left Baltimore on the brig *Ann*; and on the 11th February, 1834, cast anchor in the roadstead of Cape Palmas, engaged in carrying out the scope of his letter to Dr. Ayres, written five years before.

On the 20th of May, 1834, affairs had already assumed the appearance of a settlement of civilized men; all difficulties with the natives had been settled, when Dr. Hall may be said to have struck the keynote of his administration by issuing the following Proclamation; concluding, after an enumeration of the many reasons for thankfulness, thus:—

"Being thoroughly impressed with a deep sense of favor so signally bestowed upon us by the great Disposer of Events, I do hereby appoint Friday, the fourth of July next, as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, and I do request that all the inhabitants of this colony will, on that day, cease from unnecessary labor; and that they will assemble at our usual place of public worship and there join in rendering fervent thanks to Almighty God for His abundant mercies and special

favor bestowed upon us individually and as a community; that we repent of our numerous offences according to His revealed law and the dictates of our own consciences; that we earnestly supplicate a continuance of His guardian care and providence, and that He may so endow us with His Divine influence that our doings may be acceptable to Him, beneficial to ourselves as individuals, and alike honorable and profitable as members of this infant republic.

"Done at Cape Palmas, this 20th day of June, 1834, JAMES HALL, Governor."

To particularize all that Dr. Hall accomplished as agent of the Society, and as Governor of Maryland in Liberia.--to dwell upon his ability in the purchase of the territory from the natives,-- the firm stand he took in his relations with them,--his personal bravery under circumstances that would have caused many men to quail,--his judgment in carrying out the laws that had been furnished him to guide in founding a nation fashioned after that which he had left, that its example might be perpetuated--the readiness with which he met unforeseen circumstances as they arose,-- and all this while he was in feeble health, even dependent upon his crutches to assist him in the active life he was forced to lead,--would extend his history while in the service of the Maryland State Colonization Society in Africa far beyond the limits of the present notice. The only wonder was that he was able for three years to remain in the Society's service. But even Dr. Hall's surprising power of endurance had its extent, and at the end of this time the Society had no alternative but to accept his resignation.

"Looking to the circumstances of his appointment; to his presence off Cape Palmas with the accidental possession of the volume containing the description of it, which he was thus prepared to verify; to his letter to Dr. Ayres, which reached the Board of Managers when they were hesitating in regard to the site of a new settlement; to his arrival in Baltimore on a wholly distinct errand when there was difficulty in the choice of the leader of the expedition which his letter had so largely contributed to promote; to his most remarkable fitness for the work, and to his willingness to return on the instant to Africa to undertake it; the Board of Managers felt that in parting with Dr. Hall they lost one who had entered into their service in a manner that might be well regarded as providential."

After leaving the service of the State Colonization Society and so terminating the episode that has given to him a deserved reputation in connection with African Colonization, Dr. Hall engaged in mercantile pursuits connected with trade on the coast, and his place in the colony was supplied temporarily by Dr. O. H. Holmes, until John B. Russwurm was appointed governor to continue the system so successfully pursued by Dr. Hall.

Subsequently, Dr. Hall, became interested in the affairs of the State Society; but it was in Baltimore, as manager of the Chesapeake and Liberia Trading Company, in which the State Society was a stockholder, and whose affairs were conducted with a success, which proved that the agent's ability as a merchant was not less remarkable than had been his political career as governor of Maryland in Liberia. About the same time he became the editor of the *Maryland State Colonization Journal*, whose volumes deposited in the library of the Maryland Historical Society prove his ability in yet another direction. When he died, he was a life Director in the American Colonization Society, although practically his official connection with the cause and with Liberia ceased with his term of office as Governor of the colony at Cape Palmas.

I cannot close this notice without saying, that for nearly sixty years, this true and brave and reliable man, Dr. James Hall, was my personal and attached friend, a grateful recollection that I shall carry to my grave.

*From The Charleston S. C. News.*

#### TALK WITH AN EX-ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Hon. H. W. Grimes, ex-attorney general of the Republic of Liberia, on a visit to Charleston, was seen yesterday by a Reporter for the *News*, and in the course of an interview gave much interesting information regarding the present condition and prospects of the little African Republic. Lawyer Grimes is a native of Barbadoes, came to America when he was 20 years old, and in a few months afterwards, in 1878, went to Liberia, where he has since resided. He was admitted to the Bar in that country, and, after practicing two years, as the law required, stood his examination and was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court. He was commissioned Attorney General in 1883, but finding that his private practice yielded him much more revenue than the official salary, he resigned after a few months. He has held several other judicial offices since that time, and has been engaged in practice at Monrovia. He has been travelling in this country for the past few months, and has delivered a series of lectures at various places in the South with much success.

"What do you think of Liberia as a colonization point for the colored race in this country?" asked the reporter.

"I think the *Azor* scheme would have been very successful had it been kept up," was the reply. "The people who went there on the vessel are doing well. Of course there are some who would not thrive anywhere, and these have not done much, but others have been very successful. The last session of the Legislature granted a bounty to Clement Irons for building a steamboat, which was successfully run on the river at Monrovia. Numbers of attempts have been made to run a boat on the St. Paul's river, but none succeeded until Irons, who is a skilled mechanic, built his. The boat is named the *Sarah Ann Irons*, and is a fine craft. Scott Daniels and Tyler are also doing well. Moss Stevens is now a Baptist preacher, and is succeeding in his new calling.

"Liberia," he continued, "I am sure, has a future before her, although there are a number of things to remedy. In my opinion the Government is at present too complex, and should be simplified. The whole country has improved very much since the people have taken more to agriculture. I was told, just before I sailed for America, that the output of coffee for the present year would exceed 1,500,000 pounds. This crop is all handled by one or two firms, and is shipped to England and Germany chiefly, very little of it finding its way to America on account of the slow communication between the two countries. There is only one firm that trades directly with this country, and it sends out a vessel every three or four months. These are



sailing vessels, however, and as the time of the voyage is uncertain the trade is naturally limited. Coffee is the chief product of the country, although palm oil and other products of the tropics are shipped in small quantities. The profit on the latter is small, however, owing to the general condition of the market.

"The population of the Republic is about a million, of which about 20,000 are Americo-Liberians, or their descendants. There are a great many Mohammedans among the natives. The natives cannot understand the inconsistencies of Christians, and consequently the latter faith has much difficulty in securing a permanent hold on them. There are Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist churches, and some few Lutherans in Liberia.

"Nearly all of the imports now come from Europe, as the trade with America cannot be developed without a steam line. The people prefer American goods, however, and get them from Germany in many cases."

Lawyer Grimes has with him a number of specimens of work done in Liberia, and the little Republic evidently boasts of skilled mechanics. Their work in ivory, tortoise shell and other native material is very fine, and is, in some cases, remarkable, as it is all done by hand.

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*From The Washington, D. C., Bee.*

#### TEN YEARS IN LIBERIA.

I was born in Barnwell County, South Carolina, in the year 1851, and sailed on the bark *Azor* from Charleston, S. C., on the 21st day of April, 1878, arriving at Monrovia June 4th, 1878. A wife and one child, my entire property that day was one dollar and fifty cents. Every thing looked dark and gloomy to me in a strange land, but I trusted God and went forward. I settled about fourteen miles from Monrovia and went to planting coffee and raising garden vegetables, etc. I have now four thousand coffee hills bearing. I also raise stock. I have about four acres of land under fence and seven head of cattle in this enclosure, also hogs and goats. I have had a hard time of it, it is true; but I would not now exchange my chance in Liberia for any in the United States of America,

My farm is carried on by my wife and boys, by my means, while I am clerk in one of the largest business houses in the city of Monrovia, founded by A. Woermann, of Hamburg, Germany, in 1836. My



dear colored friends in the United States, I would be glad if you all could come over to this land of our forefathers, for I do not believe there is any other place for the colored race but Africa. O, come home, and build up an inheritance for our rising generations. Brethren and sisters, fathers and mothers, come; here is a large country waiting for you, a land of liberty. Laboring men come here and sometimes go back and give the country a bad name; but they do not go to the soil, if so they would see a better time than if they came and simply sat down for a few days. Because no cars are seen, they get dissatisfied, and in this state of mind, they return to the United States and circulate all manner of evil reports. I have lived here ten years and my hope is that God will spare me ten years more.

G. S. DANIEL.

### RECEIPTS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

During the month of June, 1889.

| WISCONSIN. (\$9.00.)                      |       | RECAPITULATION.                      |          |
|---|-------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Chelsea.</i> J. L. Carter, toward cost |       | For African Repository.....          | 1 25     |
| of emigrant passage.....                  | 9 00  | Applicants toward passage ..         | 79 00    |
| COLORADO. (\$30.00.)                      |       | Rent of Colonization Building.....   | 103 25   |
| <i>Denver.</i> E. J. Devine, toward cost  |       | Interest.....                        | 180 00   |
| of emigrant passage.....                  | 20 00 | Interest for Schools in Liberia..... | 93 00    |
| FOR REPOSITORY. (\$1.25.)                 |       |                                      |          |
| Virginia St., Wisconsin 25c .....         | 1 25  | Total Receipts in June.....          | \$403 50 |

During the month of July, 1889.

| NEW JERSEY. (\$10.00.)                      |       | MARYLAND. (\$15.00.)                    |          |
|---|-------|---|----------|
| <i>Trenton.</i> John S. Chambers, Annual    |       | <i>Taneytown.</i> Ladies of the Presby- |          |
| Donation .....                              | 10 00 | terian Church ..                        | 15 00    |
| FOR REPOSITORY. (\$1.00.)                   |       | RECAPITULATION.                         |          |
| New Jersey.....                             | 1 00  | Donations.....                          | 25 00    |
| FLORIDA. (\$1.00.)                          |       | For African Repository.....             | 1 00     |
| <i>Oakland.</i> J. F. Freeman, toward       |       | Applicants toward passage.....          | 5 00     |
| cost of emigrant passage.....               | 1 00  | Rent of Colonization Building.....      | 320 58   |
| WISCONSIN. (\$4.00.)                        |       | Interest "Theodore Lewis' Mason         |          |
| <i>Chelsea.</i> John L. Carter, toward cost |       | M. D." Fund.....                        | 25 00    |
| of emigrant passage.....                    | 4 00  | Total Receipts in July.....             | \$478 58 |

During the month of August, 1889.

| NEW JERSEY. (\$155.00.)                |          | VIRGINIA. (\$1.00.)                    |          |
|--|----------|--|----------|
| New Jersey Colonization Society,       |          | <i>Alexandria.</i> Mrs. Mary B. Black- |          |
| Rev. G. F. Love, Agent.                |          | ford.....                              | 1 00     |
| PRINCETON. ADDITIONAL. Wm. D.          |          | ILLINOIS. (\$10.00.)                   |          |
| Aiken, Esq. \$25.00. Prof. F. H.       |          | <i>Freedom.</i> Rev. Wesley Bacheller. | 10 00    |
| Osborn \$15.00. Geo. W. Ginness,       |          | RECAPITULATION.                        |          |
| \$10.00. Rev. H. G. Hinsdale, D.       |          | Donations.....                         | 166 00   |
| D. \$5.00.....                         | 55 00    | Rent of Colonization Building.....     | 100 00   |
| <i>Newark.</i> Daniel Price, Esq. .... | 100 00   | Interest.....                          | 105 00   |
|  |          | Interest for Schools in Liberia.....   | 29 20    |
|  | \$155.00 | Total Receipts in August .....         | \$400 20 |





# CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

*Organized, January 1, 1817.*

*Incorporated, March 22, 1837.*

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called The American Colonization Society.

ARTICLE 2. The objects of this Society shall be to aid the Colonization of Africa by voluntary colored emigrants from the United States, and to promote there the extension of Christianity and civilization.

ARTICLE 3. Every citizen of the United States who shall have paid to the funds of the Society the sum of one dollar, shall be a member of the Society for one year from the time of such payment. Any citizen who shall have paid the sum of thirty dollars, shall be a member for life. And any citizen paying the sum of one thousand dollars, shall be a Director for life. Foreigners may be made members by a vote of the Society or of the Directors.

ARTICLE 4. The Society shall meet annually at Washington on the third Tuesday in January, and at such other times and places as it shall direct. At the annual meeting, a President and Vice-Presidents shall be chosen, who shall perform the duties appropriate to those offices.

ARTICLE 5. There shall be a Board of Directors composed of the Directors for life and of Delegates from the several Auxiliary Societies. Each of such Societies shall be entitled to one Delegate and an additional Delegate for every two hundred dollars paid into the treasury of this Society within the year ending on the 31st of December; provided that no Auxiliary shall be entitled to more than four Delegates in any one year.

ARTICLE 6. The Board shall annually appoint one or more Secretaries, a Treasurer and an Executive Committee of seven persons; all of whom shall, *ex-officio*, be members of the Board. The President of the Society shall also be a Director, *ex-officio*, and President of the Board; but in his absence at any meeting a Chairman shall be appointed to preside.

ARTICLE 7. The Board of Directors shall meet in Washington at twelve o'clock M., on the third Tuesday of January in each year, and at such other times and places as it shall appoint, or at the request of the Executive Committee, and at the request of any three of the Auxiliary Societies, communicated to the Corresponding Secretary. Seven Directors shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE 8. The Executive Committee shall meet according to its own appointment or at the call of the Secretary. This Committee shall have discretionary power to transact the business of the Society, subject only to such limitations as are found in its charter, in this Constitution, and in the votes that have been passed, or may hereafter be passed, by the Board of Directors. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be members of the Committee *ex-officio*, with the right to deliberate, but not to vote. The Committee is authorized to fill all vacancies in its own body; to appoint a Secretary or Treasurer whenever such offices are vacant; and to appoint and direct such Agents as may be necessary for the service of the Society. At every annual meeting, the Committee shall report their doings to the Society, and to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 9. This Constitution may be amended upon a proposition to that effect, made and approved at any meeting of the Board of Directors, or made by any of the Auxiliary Societies represented in the Board of Directors, transmitted to the Secretary and published in the official paper of the Society three months before the annual meeting; provided such amendment receive the sanction of two-thirds of the Board at its next annual meeting.

# The American Colonization Society.

## LIFE DIRECTORS.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1852. JAMES HALL, M. D. .... <i>Md.</i>         | 1870. DANIEL PRICE, Esq. .... <i>N. Y.</i>        |
| 1853. ALEXANDER DUNCAN, Esq. .... <i>R. I.</i>  | 1871. REV. WILLIAM H. STEELE, D. D., <i>N. Y.</i> |
| 1864. ALEXANDER GUY, M. D. .... <i>Ohio.</i>    | 1871. R.T. REV. H. C. POTTER, D. D., <i>N. Y.</i> |
| 1868. EDWARD COLES, Esq. .... <i>Pa.</i>        | 1873. REV. GEORGE W. SAMSON, D. D., <i>N. Y.</i>  |
| 1869. REV. JOSEPH F. TUTTLE, D. D., <i>Ind.</i> | 1878. REV. EDWARD W. APPLETON, D. D., <i>Pa.</i>  |
| 1869. CHARLES H. NICHOLS, M. D., <i>N. Y.</i>   | 1885. WILLIAM EVANS GUY, Esq., .... <i>Mo.</i>    |

## DELEGATES FOR 1889.

PENNSYLVANIA COLONIZATION SOCIETY.—Arthur M. Burton Esq. Robert B. Davidson, Esq., Rev. Alfred L. Elwyn, John Welsh Dulles Esq.

## INSTRUMENTS OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

*First.*—AN EMIGRATION FUND, for the purpose of sending to Liberia, semi-annually, with the means of settlement, a well selected company of thrifty emigrants.

*Second.*—AN AGRICULTURAL FUND, for supplying seeds and farming implements to the emigrants and settlers.

*Third.*—AN EDUCATION FUND, for the more thorough education of the youth of Liberia, on whom will soon devolve the task of conducting the Government.

## EDUCATION IN LIBERIA.

THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY is ready to receive, invest and set apart, for the promotion of common-school education in Liberia, all such sum or sums of money as may be given or bequeathed to it for that purpose.

Funds for LIBERIA COLLEGE may be remitted to CHARLES E. STEVENS, Esq., Treasurer, Boston and Albany R. R. Co., Kneeland Street, Boston. The best form of donations and bequests is "THE TRUSTEES OF DONATIONS FOR EDUCATION IN LIBERIA."

